

1. Add bullet for tree maintenance to the UFAC web page

<http://www.ci.encinitas.ca.us/Government/Boards-Commissions/Urban-Forest-Advisory-Committee>

2. Ask city Environmental Commission to publicize the tree-maintenance link in their online material.

3. Include the tree-maintenance link in various city newsletters as convenient.

4. Our proposed tree-maintenance page would look something like this:

PROPER CARE OF MATURE TREES

Protect the investment in your home and property! Large trees contribute so much to the value and beauty of your home, not to mention reducing greenhouse gasses, providing needed shade, improving air quality, and many other benefits.

A primary concern of the Urban Forest Advisory Committee is to ensure the health of our city's urban forest. Trees in the city right of way (street trees) are maintained by the city, so a call to the city can result in an inspection and scheduling of needed maintenance. Trees in your yard are the responsibility of the homeowner. Smaller trees, for which all trimming can be done with hand tools and one's feet on the ground, are the easiest – these can be maintained by either an arborist or by a homeowner willing to learn proper pruning techniques. Larger trees require an arborist trained in safe and effective maintenance.

A few **common-sense beneficial** practices can help ensure a long and healthy life for your trees. The following suggestions will help you to properly maintain trees and avoid problems.

1. Hire a good, licensed arborist – here's how to find one:

<https://www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist>

Conducting full due diligence requires each candidate arborist license to be checked (see the website <https://www2.cslb.ca.gov/OnlineServices/CheckLicense/checklicense.aspx>) and insurance to be confirmed (call the arborist's insurance company to ensure the **license insurance** is current; **specifically a certificate of insurance for workman's compensation liability**). These steps can save you a lot of grief!

2. Select, maintain and care for trees properly at your home:

<http://www.treesaregood.org/treeowner>

or

<http://www.urbantree.org/prunehome.shtml>

We suggest that you think before each cut – there's no Undo button once the branch has been removed!

3. **Many Some** tree-trimmers **currently operating in Encinitas routinely** trim trees with the poor technique known as "topping".

Topping has many negative consequences:

- Unsafe conditions due to weakened tree structure
- Increased likelihood of disease by opening large wounds
- Lower property values due to poor aesthetics
- For more information, see [Why Topping Hurts Trees](#) by the International Society of Arboriculture.

4. The following videos offer a good introduction to maintenance of both large and small trees. <<<< Tim Clancy and Mark Wisniewski to consider making one or more Encinitas-oriented videos >>>> (examples)

How to care for your small tree

Techniques of a good arborist

Examples of poorly maintained trees

Etc.

(Maybe include address so people can check out the trees themselves?)

(There was also a reference made to John Clemmons's videos, can someone find these so we can review? Thanks!)

<<< Tim to provide ISA pages of interest. >>>

~~For information about homeowner liability, please consult a lawyer. <<<< Mark Delin to consult with the city attorney on how/if this should be addressed >>>>~~ <<< Brian to provide information on this topic? Or is new wording sufficient? >>>